



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN re Application of

Shuji MURATA et al.

Serial No.: 10/516,356

Filed: December 1, 2004

For: COMBINATION CALCULATION AND
COMBINATION MEASURING DEVICEINFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the attached references to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Also attached is a completed PTO-1449 form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application. Thus, ***no fee is believed to be due for this Information Disclosure Statement.*** However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Relevance of Japanese Patent Application Publications 09-068457 and 04-118528 are discussed in the search report of the corresponding international application. U.S. Patent 5,889,235 is a corresponding patent of Japanese Patent Application Publication 09-068457.

Relevance of Japanese Patent Application Publications 08-29242 and 2002-156276 are discussed on page 1, line 22 – page 2, line 15.

Japanese Patent 2-54886 discloses a combination calculation apparatus that includes selection means that designates a combination of weighers from which articles are to be discharged, calculation means that calculates the total weight of the articles to be discharged from the designated weighers, the calculation means also calculating the difference between the total weight and a target weight and selecting additional weigher from which an additional article having a weight close to the difference is to be discharged, and discharge control means that discharges at one point in time the articles from the weighers selected by

the selection means, and discharges at another point in time the additional article from the additional weigher selected by the calculation means.

Japanese patent 1-43889 discloses a combination calculation system that utilizes a plurality of combination calculation apparatuses, each combination calculation apparatus discharging different type of articles, such that combined articles that have different types of articles are obtained at a desired proportion, the total weight of the combined articles being the predetermined desired weight.

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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